Upgrading ESI hospitals in Orissa

1340. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to upgrade some ESI hospitals/dispansaries in Orissa;

(b) if so, what are those ESI hospitals and dispansaries proposed to be upgraded during 1992-93 financial year and also during the Eighth Plan ; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, the ESIC has decided to commission two ESI dispensaries—one at Shahidnagar and the other at Bardol during 1992-93. It has also acquired land for construction of two ESI hospitals—one at Rourkela (25 beds) and another at Bhubaneshwar (50 beds) during the Eighth plan.

Violation of Safety Norms

1341. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that several violation of safety norms were brought to their notice during the last one decade and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what action has been thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR) (a) Yes.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the eble of the House.

Child Labour engaged in carpet industry

1342. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of child labour working in carpet manufacturing industry in the country as on 31st January 1992 ;

(b) the number of bonded child labour released as on 31st January 1992 ; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to secure release of such workers ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR) : (a) Children below 14 years of age are working in some occupations and processes including carpet weaving in which their employment is prohibited under the law. However, no statistics is available about the number of children engaged in Carpet industry.

(b) According to available information total number of bonded labour identified and freed in the country as on 31-3-91 was 2,56,608. No separate data available for bonded child labour.

(c) As per Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 the State Government are the appropriate authority to secure release and rehabilitate bonded labourers. To supplement the efforts of the State Government in rehabilitation of the bonded labour the Ministry of Labour is implementing a centrally sponsored scheme whereby financial assistance to the tune o Rs. 6250/- is provided to each bo nde labour.